

**State of Vermont**  
**Vermont Board of Nursing**

In re: Bonnie Tuthill  
License Number 025.0007737  
Docket Number: D-2014-728

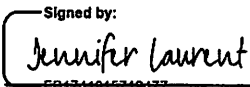
**Order to Remove Conditions**

On February 10, 2025, the Vermont Board of Nursing considered Bonnie Tuthill's request for Removal of Conditions imposed pursuant to a Stipulation & Consent Order under Docket Number 2014-728. Ms. Tuthill has successfully met the conditions. After review of the follow-up file, the State does not object to removal of all conditions.

**Order:**

The Board hereby removes all conditions from Bonnie Tuthill's Licensed Practical Nurse license.

**Vermont Board of Nursing**

Signed by:  
  
EB1741915719477...  
Jennifer Laurent, Board Chair

Date: February 10, 2025

Date of Entry: 2, 11, 25



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State of Vermont  
Office of the Secretary of State

Office of Professional Regulation  
89 Main Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3402  
sos.vermont.gov

Sarah Copeland Hanzas, Secretary of State  
S. Lauren Hibbert, Deputy Secretary  
Michael D. Warren, Interim Director

January 23, 2025

Ultan Doyle, Esq.  
Office of Professional Regulation  
89 Main Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3402

Case: Bonnie Tuthill  
Credential: License # 025.0007737  
Docket No: 2014-728

Dear Attorney Doyle:

Please find the enclosed **Request to Remove Conditions** filed on the above captioned docket number. Pursuant to the Office of Professional Regulation's Administrative Rule 3.8 you have 10 days to respond to the motion.

You may contact me at (802) 828-2367 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Julie Bowen  
Docket Clerk

Enc: *Request to Remove Conditions*

Cc: Kristin Donnelly, Case Manager  
Bonnie Tuthill, Respondent

**Bowen, Julie**

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**From:** Bonnie Tuthill <bonnie.tuthill@bhninc.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 22, 2025 6:48 AM  
**To:** Bowen, Julie  
**Subject:** petition for removal of discipline  
**Attachments:** Professional Boundaries and Healthcare Workers - RLMS Certificate.zip

You don't often get email from bonnie.tuthill@bhninc.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

**EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.**

Hello Julie,

My name is Bonnie Tuthill

VT license was 025.0007737 DOB: 05/12/1971

Recently my current workplace did a credentialling check in which there was a question about a "reprimand"

Back in Aug of 2015 - Jan of 2016 there was a discipline for boundaries. However back then I did the course but did not petition the board.

I have been in contact with Shiela Boni and Kristin Donnelly who helped me obtain a new course.

To help me clear things up. I did a new Professional Boundaries course which I have now completed and attached.

I am now writing to you to submit a petition to the Vermont Board of Nursing to remove the conditions if possible.

As a note I am not seeking to reinstate my Vermont license at this time, I am just trying to clear this up for my current employer.

Some reason I thought after I completed the class years ago that was all I needed to do. I didn't realize I needed to petition the board as well.

How is this petition scheduled and what should I expect.

Thank you for your time

Bonnie Tuthill

[Bonnie.Tuthill@bhninc.org](mailto:Bonnie.Tuthill@bhninc.org)

[Bonnibell2000@yahoo.com](mailto:Bonnibell2000@yahoo.com)

(413) 210-6665

RELIAS

## Certificate of Completion

***Bonnie Jean Tuthill***

has successfully completed the course:

***Professional Boundaries and Healthcare Workers***

on

**1/16/2025**

for

**1.00 of training hours**

**This certificate may not meet your organization or certification needs for continuing education. See your administrator or board for specific guidelines.**



**Director of Accreditations**

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# RELIAS

## Certificate of Completion

**Bonnie Jean Tuthill**

License #: LNS2613

has successfully completed the course:

***Professional Boundaries and Healthcare Workers***

on

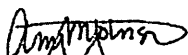
**1/16/2025 for 1.00 Contact Hours.**



In support of improving patient care, Relias LLC is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Relias LLC (50-290) reports to CEBroker for the following Nursing boards: Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Carolina, West Virginia, and Wyoming. Please refer to your board regulations to review accepted contact hour increments and requirements.

CEBroker Tracking #: 20-Content Area: Ethics

  
Director of Accreditations

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**STATE OF VERMONT  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION  
BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE:** )  
**BONNIE J. TUTHILL** ) **Docket No. 2014-728**  
**License No. 025.0007737** )

**STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER**

**STIPULATION**

NOW COME the State of Vermont, by and through State Prosecuting Attorney Elizabeth A. Jarvis, and the Respondent, Bonnie J. Tuthill, who stipulate and agree as follows:

**Board Authority**

1. The Vermont State Board of Nursing (the "Board") has authority to issue warnings or reprimands; suspend, revoke, limit, or condition current licenses; or prevent the renewal of lapsed licenses if, after disciplinary hearing, the Board finds that the Respondent has engaged in unprofessional conduct. 3 V.S.A. § 129(a); 3 V.S.A. § 129a; 3 V.S.A. § 814(d); 26 V.S.A. § 1595; 26 V.S.A. § 1600; the Administrative Rules of the Board of Nursing (the "ARBN"); and the Rules of the Office of Professional Regulation.

**Stipulated Facts**

2. Bonnie J. Tuthill (the "Respondent") of Turners Falls, Massachusetts, is licensed by the State of Vermont as a Licensed Practical Nurse under license number 025.0007737. This license was originally issued on or about December 7, 1998, and expires on or about January 31, 2016.
3. During the relevant time period, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Practical Nurse at the Brattleboro Retreat (the "Facility") in Brattleboro, Vermont.
4. In July and August of 2014, the Respondent was a medication nurse in the Adult Psychiatric Unit and sat behind a window to administer medications to the patients in that unit, including patient R.T.
5. R.T. received inpatient treatment at the Facility in the Adult Psychiatric Unit from on or about July 23, 2014, to on or about July 31, 2014. R.T. received his medication from the Respondent during his inpatient stay.

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05620-3402

6. During R.T.'s inpatient treatment, the Respondent realized she knew R.T. as an acquaintance of her ex-husband. The Respondent did not report the fact that she knew the patient, as required by the Facility's policy.
7. After leaving inpatient treatment, R.T. received outpatient treatment at the Facility from on or about July 31, 2014, to on or about August 11, 2014. After starting outpatient treatment, R.T. discovered where the Respondent lived and began driving by her house. R.T. approached the Respondent when he saw her at her local Walmart and the two exchanged phone numbers. The Respondent began dating R.T. within eight days of his release from inpatient treatment.
8. On or about September 25, 2014, during an internal investigation at the Facility regarding her relationship with R.T., the Respondent stated that she and R.T. were already married. The Respondent stated she did not see anything wrong with her relationship with R.T.
9. On or about October 15, 2014, the Respondent stated that because the Facility policy about staff and patient relationships did not indicate how long after a patient's discharge the policy remained in effect, she felt it did not apply to her. She also stated that her relationship was part of her private life and organizational policies should not dictate with whom she fell in love.
10. The essential standards of acceptable and prevailing practice for Licensed Practical Nurses prohibit them from entering into a relationship with mental health clients for a period of at least two years after termination of nursing services.

#### **Violations**

11. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because the Respondent has committed unprofessional conduct in violation of:
  - a. 3 V.S.A §129a(a)(3) (Failing to comply with provisions of federal or state statutes or rules governing the practice of the profession); and
  - b. 3 V.S.A §129a(b)(1) and (2) (Failure to practice competently by reason of any cause on a single occasion or on multiple occasions may constitute unprofessional conduct, whether actual injury to a client, patient, or customer has occurred. Failure to practice competently includes: (1) performance of unsafe or unacceptable patient or client care; or (2) failure to conform to the essential standards of acceptable and prevailing practice).

#### **Understandings**

12. Respondent admits that the facts above are true and that the conditions below are necessary to protect the public.

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13. Respondent understands that the Nursing Board must review and accept the terms of the Consent Order. If the Board rejects any portion, the entire Stipulation and Consent Order shall be null and void.
14. Respondent specifically waives any claims that any disclosures made to the full Board during its review of this agreement have prejudiced her rights to a fair and impartial hearing in future hearings if this agreement is not accepted by the Board.
15. Respondent has read and reviewed this entire document and agrees that it contains the entire agreement between the parties.
16. Respondent is not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol at the time she signs this Stipulation and Consent Order.
17. Respondent voluntarily enters into this agreement after the opportunity to consult with legal counsel and is not being coerced by anyone into signing this Stipulation and Consent Order.
18. Respondent voluntarily waives her right to a contested hearing before the Board of Nursing and waives any right to appeal from this Stipulation and Consent Order.
19. Respondent agrees that the Order set forth below may be entered by the Board.

### ORDER

Based on the Stipulation above, it is **ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** as follows:

- A. The Board of Nursing hereby **REPRIMANDS** the Respondent's license.
- B. Respondent's license is **CONDITIONED** as follows:
  - a. Respondent shall, within ninety days of this Order, at her own expense, complete a course pre-approved by the Board related to professional boundaries. Failure to complete such a course within the prescribed timeframe shall constitute a violation of this Order.
  - b. Upon receipt of satisfactory evidence that Respondent has completed the described course, the Board or its designee shall terminate the conditions upon Respondent's license and restore the license to unencumbered status.
- C. Notwithstanding any provision above, the Respondent must continue to meet all Nursing Board requirements for maintaining a license, license renewal and license reinstatement.

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- D. This Stipulation and Consent Order is a matter of public record and may be reported to other licensing authorities as provided in 3 V.S.A. §129(a).
- E. This Stipulation and Consent Order will remain part of Respondent's licensing file and may be used for purposes of determining sanctions in any future disciplinary matter.

AGREED TO:

STATE OF VERMONT  
SECRETARY OF STATE

Dated: , 1/4/16

By: Elizabeth A. Jarvis  
Elizabeth A. Jarvis  
State Prosecuting Attorney

BONNIE J. TUTHILL  
RESPONDENT

Dated: 12-16-15

By: Bonnie J. Tuthill  
Bonnie J. Tuthill

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED:

VERMONT BOARD OF NURSING

Dated: 1/11/16

By: Jeanine Carr  
Chairperson

Date of Entry: 1/11/16

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